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Unlike other shrines in Japan, Meiji Shrine has a special form of omikuji called oomigokoro (Boyal Heart), consisting of 30 selected poems written by Emperor Meiji and his wife, Empress Shouken (aka Empress Dowaver Shouken).

Also, records say the Emperor wrote about 100,000 poems, and the Empress did about 30,000.

## More info at:

http://www.meijijingu.or.jp/english/about/8.html http://www.meijijingu.or.jp/english/your/3.html

The poem used in this chapter is the  $12^{\rm o}$  poem among Empress Shouken's selected poems. A literal translation would be :

THE MIRROR I LOOK INTO EACH MORNING IS UNBLEMISHED: I WANT MY HEART TO BE LIKE THAT.

In general, this implies that one should have a mind as clear as a mirror so that one will not be misguided by the things one sees.



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